

Minutes of the April 2, 2019 Meeting of the Richmond Heritage Commission – 4/4/19 draft

The Richmond Heritage Commission (RHC) met on April 2, 2019 at 9:30 AM at the Richmond Public Library. Jerry Mills, Carol Jameson and Bonnie McCarthy were present. Carol served as Secretary for the meeting. John Lewis also attended. All are members of the Richmond Historical Society (RHS). One important topic discussed at the meeting involved the dedication of the Civil War Monument at Veterans Park on June 9, a joint project of the RHC and the RHS. Jerry Merrifield attended to demonstrate his playing of Taps.

Treasurer's Report

Bonnie, Treasurer, reported that here is a total of \$5,523.68 in the treasury at this point, of which \$2,600 is money donated toward the Civil War monument. The RHC did not request funds from the town this year as the amount in the treasury (all donations) is sufficient to complete the present planned projects.

The RHC approved an invoice from the RHS for a portion of the cost of the Civil War monument and Veteran's Park installation, in the amount of \$2,500. Because of the time delay in processing checks from the RHC due to the processing through the Town Treasurer, the RHS will pay many of the invoices directly, after approval of an invoice and discussion of the work done with the RHC. Additional costs for the dedication ceremony will be less substantial – an honorarium for the 6th NH Regiment for their honor guard, attendance in Civil War uniform, and display of Civil War memorabilia; posters and postcards publicizing the event, refreshments, wreath, to name a few. These expenses were approved by the RHC, subject to approval of the amounts by the Treasurer as customary and appropriate amounts, and subsequent reporting of the expenditures to the Commission. (Secretary's Note – Bonnie subsequently researched the honorarium and approved the amount of \$250 for this purpose.) The RHS is pickinf up other expenses and work.

Meeting with the Selectmen

Jerry, Carol, Bonnie and John had met with the Selectmen on the previous evening to report on several projects and obtain Selectmen approval for projects that involves Town land. They gave a report on the plans for the June 9 Civil War monument dedication – the town will provide police coverage for traffic control. The Veteran's Hall has been rented for all day, although the ceremony starts at 2 PM.

They also discussed tree cutting – the trees in front of the Telephone Building should come down, for safety and aesthetic concerns. The building has been restored by the RHC but there are overhanging trees between the building and Route 32. The RHC has sought estimates for the work but, given the proximity to electrical wires from which the limbs entwine, it was the consensus of two professionals that Eversource should do the work. The Selectmen will have the town administrator call Eversource and will keep the RHC informed on the progress. The RHC has removed the smaller trees and brush and will continue to do so. The Selectmen thanked them for their efforts and gave them permission to remove and clean-up what they can. (Jerry also reported on trees that need to be cut at the Quaker Cemetery, under the

supervision of the Library, and the Quaker Cemetery, under the supervision of the RHS and Cemetery Trustees, and the spreading of wood chips on the path from the Four Corners Property to Amidon Park, all of which the Selectmen approved.)

Civil War Monument Dedication Ceremony

The following tasks relating to the Civil War dedication ceremony on June 9, were discussed:

Publicity – articles in local papers, Bonnie to do. Rooster, Sentinel, Peterborough paper.

Publicity – posters and postcards – Rob has done a design in Civil War font that the group has reviewed, Wendy O'Brien is following up on production. Carol will coordinate with Wendy and see that the postcards and information reaches local historical societies and groups.

Publicity – contacting Civil War buffs – John and Jerry to follow-up with CCHS and to reach out to Civil War groups (Hank may have ideas)

Tents?- group discussed whether tents were a good idea, at the site of the monument

Order of Ceremony – Bonnie to follow-up with Rob Tarbox

Horse with Civil War soldier – Susie and Sandy to follow-up

Refreshments - maybe a sheet cake with the flag of the Civil War era? Cookies? Any Civil War era type snacks? Bonnie to follow-up with Rob for advice. Carol volunteered to help provide whatever was decided.

Traffic Control – Town will provide, Carol to remind when it is closer.

Wreath – black or redwhite and blue, Bonnie to follow-up. Group does not like black.

Portable microphone – Carol to ask John Bocalini Chris D and Walden for advice.

Jerry and Jerry Merrified will straighten the bench and replace the flag and rope.

Personal Invitations – Jerry to invite Norma, Carol to work with Bonnie on invitations to the Selectboard and local politicians. (Secretary's note – Jennie Gomarlo, NH house rep, has been contacted and will come).

Clean-up cement block at Four Corners – Carol to contact Mark Beal, Jerry and John to clean up smaller stuff, Carol to ask selectmen's office about the wires close to the south wall of the cemetery and at the 4 corners intersection, are they live?

Clean-up after dedication cemetery – Bonnie to check with Pam and Al, Jerry to check with eagle scouts or other younger volunteers

Selling Richmond history books – The Town in the Forest – Carol to man table

Refreshments – Bonnie to man area

Guest Book for email address, for contact of future events (and address will not be used for any other purpose) – Carol to set-up at event

Installation of monument – Athol Granite, Bonnie will chase for bill, they are to come in a few weeks, Jerry will see to cement

Other Matters

The prospect of a picnic at the Richmond Rock for early fall was discussed, Jerry to organize. Carol to speak to Mark B about removing the pail equipment from the Parks and Rec shed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45. Next meeting to be scheduled later.

Carol Jameson, Acting Secretary